

## Mohave County Miner

and OUR MINERAL WEALTH

Official Paper of Mohave County

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### THE FIRST

This issue, the first of the combined Mohave County Miner and Our Mineral Wealth, was gotten out under difficult working conditions. Combining two organizations the size of the Miner and Our Mineral Wealth entails considerable work and the first week or so of the combination are very apt to reflect less than our best efforts.

We appreciate, however, the excellent support of our merchants as evidenced in this issue. We are in a position to give them better results with the combined circulations of the two papers and the reader can be greatly benefitted by watching the "store news" each week.

And we appreciate the good will toward the combination as expressed by many of our readers this week. We feel that it was a popular move.

### GOLD SHORTAGE SERIOUS PROBLEM

Under ordinary conditions the shortage of gold would not be a serious matter, but under war conditions there is a mighty problem confronting the people. Mining men of all classes, and especially those operating distinctively gold properties are getting together in an effort to have something logical in the way of legislation done for the stabilizing of the metal with the upturn of costs. One of the propositions that has received the greater amount of consideration is a bonus system. It has been estimated that the costs of producing gold has increased day by day since the outbreak of the war until the present cost has reached \$30. As an offset to this increased costs it is proposed to pay to the producer a bonus of \$10 on each and every ounce of the yellow metal produced, and to require of the operators a speeding up of production. The fact that gold production and development of gold properties has fallen off during the past two years makes it imperative that something be done back of the scenes. The payment of bonus to producers will not cause a speeding up of mines in process of development, nor will it cause men with money to take up new properties, no matter how inviting they may be, unless some relief from high wage and material costs are met. The farmer who was perfectly willing to sell his wheat at 80 cents two years ago has been allowed to charge as high as \$2.40 and \$2.60 for it without having to pay heavier farm charges than heretofore. If there is to be protection of every form of industry, why not that of mining? Should there be a gold failure in the United States it is possible that countries now laboring under a staggering war debt would turn to some other form of money, and that gold and silver would be sidetracked. While we do not look for this, we wish to call the attention of our people to the fact that in the early days of the war the banks and business men of the United States refused to receive further shipments of gold from Europe. Why? Because if Europe was drained of its gold supply there would be no reason for its further use as a money metal in those countries and the debtors might wish to dictate to the creditors the form of money in which they would pay off their indebtedness. It would be impossible to meet their obligations in gold or silver, and the whole monetary system of the world would be disrupted. And to maintain this present system it will be necessary to open new gold mines, increase the production of all metals mines, and throw open the doors to the small miner and prospector.

### HIGH PRODUCTIONS OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS

The attention of owners of Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps is called to the following. They are financing the work!

On one day in June last approximately 27,000,000 cartridges of various descriptions were produced in the United States manufacturing plants for the United States Government.

The daily average production of United States army rifles was broken in the week ending June 29, an average of 10,142 rifles a day of a modified Enfield and Springfield type being maintained. In addition spare parts equivalent to several thousand rifles and several thousand Russian rifles were manufactured.

The Ordnance Department has produced 2,014,815,584 cartridges, 1,886,769 rifles, and 82,540 machine guns since the United States entered the war. The daily output of cartridges is now 15,000,000.

### WHAT WE FIGHT FOR

The high aims of America and her allies are well expressed in President Wilson's greetings to France on Bastille day:

"As France celebrated our Fourth of July, so do we celebrate her Fourteenth, keenly conscious of a comradeship of arms and purpose of which we are deeply proud. The sea seems very narrow today, France is so close neighbor to our hearts. The war is being fought to save ourselves from intolerable things, but it is also being fought to save mankind. We extend our hands to each other, to the great peoples with whom we are associated; and to the peoples everywhere who love right and prize justice as a thing beyond price, and consecrate ourselves once more to the noble enterprise of peace and justice, realizing the great conceptions that have lifted France and America high among the free peoples of the world. The French flag flies today from the staff of the White House, and America is happy to do honor to that flag."

A German paper calls Secretary Baker a liar when he says that more than a million American soldiers are now in France. That insult is being avenged by the million over there, and greater vengeance will be dealt by the several other millions soon to be on their way.

### "The Peaceful Warrior"

I have no joy in strife,  
Peace is my great desire;  
Yet God forbid I lose my life  
Through fear to face the fire.

A peaceful man must fight  
For that which peace demands—  
Freedom and faith, honor and right,  
Defend with heart and hands.

Farewell, my friendly books;  
Farewell, ye woods and streams;  
The fate that calls me forward looks  
To a duty beyond dreams.

Oh, better be dead  
With a face turned to the sky  
Than live beneath a slavish dread  
And serve a giant lie.

Stand up, my heart, and strive  
For the things most dear to thee!  
Why should we care to be alive  
Unless the world be free?

—Henry Van Dyke in Scribner's Magazine.

### PASSES THE TWO MILLION MARK

Arizona has passed the two million dollar mark in the sale of Thrift Stamps and is on the way to the three million goal. The amount to be raised is \$5,274,620, or about \$21 per capita. During the month of July, Mohave county passed from fourth position to that of fifth, but is close up to Coconino county. The fact that Mohave county has only raised \$34,379 of its quota of \$80,520 is not a good showing for the people, and it is up to them to remedy it. Mohave county has to raise \$46,133 before the first of January, and will also have to go through another Liberty Loan campaign. There are many men in this county who can readily buy from \$500 to \$1000 of Thrift Stamps and not miss the money, and at the same time would have a splendid investment. It may not be news to the general public, but it is a fact that was the purchase of Thrift Stamps not limited to \$1000 per person the entire issue would be snapped up by the big fellows of the country on account of its ideal investment feature. So why should the little fellows who can make small investments pass it up?

### WAR BANK NOTES

We're to have a war-time currency. It will consist of a big issue of new \$1 and \$2 bills symbolizing the present war.

The \$1 note will have on its face a portrait of George Washington, who fought and won our first war for freedom, and on the reverse side an eagle in warlike attitude clutching the American flag. The \$2 note will bear on its face a picture of Thomas Jefferson, the greatest of our earliest exponents of democracy, and on the back the design of one of our new battleships that are fighting for world democracy.

These bank notes, needless to say, have nothing in common with the huge quantities of paper money issued by the German government. The German paper is mere fiat money, unsecured promises to pay. Defeat will no doubt invalidate that German paper. The American paper, meant to replace our present silver certificates, is issued by the federal banks, backed by ample security, and exchangeable for coin at any time.

### SWANSEA MINE LOCKOUT

The Swansea mine, which has been under operation on lease the past year or so, has had a strike in progress, which shut the property down for the time being. The Swansea mine has been one of the important properties of the Bill Williams Fork, in Yuma county, and it is to be hoped that the difficulties will soon be surmounted. Strikes at this time are bad, not only for the property, but for the men who stop work. The United States government has a mediator whose duty it is to settle all grievances between employer and employee, and it is to be hoped that both parties will come to their senses and reopen the mine. Properties of the magnitude of the Swansea are necessary to the economy of the country and it is possible that our government will give the company a hint that it would be well to start production again. Then the federal mediator will settle the grievances.

### PUBLIC SHOULD NOT HESITATE

Presumably the public utility companies can handle themselves by meeting market conditions, if their credit is supported by fair treatment on the part of the communities in which they are located. It is perfectly evident that the public utilities are in a hard situation, with their incomes restricted by fixed rates of compensation and their expenses increasing under war conditions. The situation is so plain that the public should not hesitate to meet it. Since the Federal Government has become responsible for railroad earnings it has been prompt to recognize the necessities, and to safeguard itself with a liberal margin to spare. The example should be adopted by municipalities to the extent of allowing a fair readjustment of earnings and expenditures.

### A CALL TO DUTY

From the battle fields in France there comes an unspoken call that should find an answer in every American's heart. The recent great events in Europe, the successes of American arms on the fields of France should spur every American to greater effort.

Our people at home should not rest on the laurels of our soldiers in France. Every death on the field of honor in the line of duty and for our country's cause should be a call to us for every sacrifice and every exertion to aid the cause for which our soldiers are fighting, for which our soldiers have died.

Increase production, decrease consumption, save, and lend to the Government. Every cent lent to the United States is used to support, strengthen, and aid our soldiers in France.

The bravest battle that ever was fought,  
Shall I tell you where and when?  
On the maps of the world you will find it not;  
'Twas fought by the Mothers of Men.  
—Joaquin Miller.

## CONGRESSMAN JAMES H. DAVIDSON DEAD; HAD INTERESTS IN KINGMAN

Hon. James H. Davidson, member of the Military Affairs committee, and son-in-law of F. A. Wilde of Kingman, died last Tuesday night at 8 p. m. in Washington, D. C. Mr. Davidson had been lingering in a serious condition for several months.

The deceased was nationally known having represented his district in congress for 18 years, and during that time having been actively identified with the Rivers and Harbors committee and the Railway and Canals committee, of which he was formerly chairman.

He is survived by a wife, a daughter and two sons, the elder son, K. W. Davidson, now awaiting a call to the colors at Washington, and the younger, J. F. Davidson, an ensign in the navy.

Mr. Davidson is known in Mohave county in connection with visits made here in the interest of the D. P. & W. Co., in which he was formerly interested.

WANTED—Someone to take care of good three-room house. Rent free. Inquire Old Trails Garage.

## Camp Fire Girls Dance—

Again the Camp Fire Girls went "over the top" Saturday night, when they gave another Red Cross dance. A soldier boy who passed through Kingman last week on one of the troop trains, donated his hat, which was decorated with various devices, and it was sold at the dance, \$7.40 being realized, George Brown winning it. Altogether \$42.35 was cleared. Half of this will be donated to the canteen fund of the Red Cross, as they are badly in need of money now.

The Camp Fire Girls held election of officers for the coming year last week. They met at the home of Miss Dorothy George and delicious refreshments were served. Miss George was elected treasurer and Miss Lulu Goodwin secretary. Next week the girls meet at the home of Miss Frances Sherman at eight o'clock in the evening.

### VISITS CAPITAL

George Kayes returned Thursday morning on the belated train from Phoenix, where he had been several days looking after business affairs. He reports that there have been heavy rains in the whole country from Phoenix northward and washouts on the Peavine and the main line of the Santa Fe was the cause of many delayed trains.

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